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Wednesday, April 25, 2012



## MILLION-DOLLAR FIRE

Firefighters work to extinguish the flames at a McMillan Avenue property early Tuesday morning. The fire destroyed one home and seriously damaged another. See story and more photos on page 2. SHANNON VAN RAES/FOR METRO

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On the web

**Ruff life in rehab**

Four-legged victims of disasters, dogfighting operations and puppy mills are now being given a second chance. The American SPCA has set up a rehab centre for rescued furry friends. Watch the video at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca).

**A hole lot of trouble**

A young girl plunged about seven metres after a hole opened up beneath her feet as she walked on the sidewalk. The shocking footage was captured on a security camera in China's Shaanxi Province. Watch at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca).

Mobile news



Two men have been arrested after a dangerous booby-trap was found on a Utah hiking trail. A 20-pound spiked boulder was rigged with trip wire to swing at head level. Scan the code for the story.



Michelle Cleland, 19, hugs her cat Winston after firefighter and paramedic Jeff French found the lost kitty hiding within her burned McMillan Avenue home Tuesday morning and reunited the pair. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

## Firefighters reunite Winnipeg pet owner with two cats feared lost in fire

After making it safely out of her burning home on McMillan Avenue early Tuesday morning, Michelle Cleland had just two worries — Lucy and Winston.

Although Cleland had been able to grab one of her three cats while fleeing the flames, her other two furry friends — Lucy and Winston — were no where to be found after the blaze that destroyed her neighbour's house and caused \$400,000 in damage to her own was extinguished.

Cleland, 19, stood in tears outside the burned home later in the morning looking for the cats. Enter Jeff French and Cody McPhail.

The two firefighter-paramedics from the No. 4 Station on Osborne trekked into the home and found both kitties, and, after coaxing them out from where they were hiding from the fire, carried the cats on their backs to an emotional Cleland.

"Thank you so much, you guys are the best," gushed Cleland after being reunited.

Moments like returning Lucy and Winston to their owner are some of the best a firefighter gets to experience, said French.

"It's pretty awesome," he grinned. "That's the bright spots of the job." SHANE GIBSON/METRO

# Flames consume two homes on McMillan

**Blaze.** One man taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation and burns

 SHANE GIBSON  
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A man had to be rescued from the roof of his burning home on McMillan Avenue, but no one was severely injured after fire razed two Crescentwood-area homes early Tuesday.

Geoffrey Owen was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation and burns on his hands after firefighters rescued him from the roof of his home at the corner of McMillan Avenue and Daly Street using a ladder.

"If I had slept for another two minutes, I'd be dead, man — I'd be dead," said Owen, who rented the top floor of the two-storey home, after being released from hospital and returning to the scene later in the morning.

"The sound of the fire woke me up — it was loud cracks and pops... I ran to my bay window and I saw flames on the outside

on the front veranda."

Winnipeg police say emergency crews were called to the home in the 600 block of McMillan Avenue around 2:30 a.m., which was fully engulfed in flames when they arrived.

The fire caused \$600,000 in damages to Owen's rented home and spread to the house next door, causing \$400,000 in damages.

Michelle Cleland, 19, who lives in the badly damaged home next door with her mom and her mom's boyfriend, said she called 911 after waking up to hear her mom screaming.

"It was the scariest thing," said Cleland outside the burned home Tuesday. "I went to my window and I thought the world was ending because it was just orange and you could hear this big roaring noise."

Cleland said she and her family moved back into the house in 2009 after another fire destroyed the home back 2007.

"It took a couple of years to rebuild, and now it's gone again," she said. "Yesterday we were just talking about how nice it was to have our new balcony in the summer."

There was no word on the cause of the blaze. Police continue to investigate.



Damage to the two homes was estimated at \$1 million. SHANE GIBSON/METRO



A neighbour watches as flames consume a home on McMillan Avenue. SHANNON VAN RAES/FOR METRO



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Winnipeg blues singer Romi Mayes belts out a tune at the official kickoff for the inaugural Winnipeg BBQ & Blues Festival held Monday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

## Summer festival scene gets saucy

**Delicious treat.**  
Winnipeg BBQ & Blues Festival announced for August

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Manitoba's newest summer festival — the Winnipeg BBQ & Blues Festival — promises to taste as good as it sounds.

The inaugural festival, slated to hit Red River Exhibition Park Aug. 17 to 19, will pair local, national and international blues performers with a BBQ competition sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society (KCBS).

"The combination of food, barbecue and blues just seemed like a natural," said

festivals managing partner Kevin Walters at the event's official launch Monday. "Winnipeg traditionally has been a great blues town."

Over the weekend, blues lovers will get to see smoking Grammy and Juno Award-winning blues artists, including Jimmie Vaughan and the Tilt-a-Whirl Band, Little Miss Higgins, the Sojourners, the Perpetrators and the festival's ambassador and local blues legend, Big Dave McLean.

While the performers play smoking blues riffs on stage, the Winnipeg Free Press Pit Masters Championship will bring actual smoke Saturday and Sunday with a BBQ competition open to amateurs and professionals competing for a \$10,000 purse — the largest in Canada.

"We're going to have pit masters from all over North

America," explained the festival's other managing partner, Rick Fenton.

To get everyone in the mood for barbecue, the KCBS is offering a half-day course May 12 for Manitobans to become certified BBQ judges under the tutelage of master judges from Tennessee.

"Once you become a certified KCBS judge you can judge at any BBQ contest that the KCBS puts on across North America," noted Walters.

A limited run of 1,000 early-bird tickets for the entire weekend and a special VIP "Meat Ball" gala go on sale Thursday through Ticketmaster for \$32.50.

For more information, or to register for the KCBS judging course, check out the festival's website at [winnipegbbqandblues.ca](http://winnipegbbqandblues.ca).

## Fundraiser. Paws in Motion walkathon aims to cut down on cat overpopulation

Registration is now open for the Winnipeg Humane Society's largest fundraiser.

The Fairmont Winnipeg Paws in Motion is an annual walkathon around the Assiniboine Park. The funds raised go directly to the WHS Spay and Neuter program.

"There is a definite cat overpopulation in the city," said WHS CEO Bill McDonald.

"The more subsidized spay and neuter operations that are on cats will help lower the overall cat population in Winnipeg."

Every cat for adoption at the WHS goes through the program. WHS says it performs

about 6,000 spay and neuter operations a year.

Paws in Motion will take place on June 24 and participants can choose either a 1.5-kilometre or three-kilometre walk around the park. The event features pit stops with games and refreshments for walkers and their dogs, a Tail End market with local businesses, and prizes for reaching certain fundraising goals.

Register online at [winnipeghumane.org](http://winnipeghumane.org) or by picking up a pledge form at any Winnipeg Safeway location or the Winnipeg Humane Society at 45 Hurst Way.

ALYSSA MCDONALD/FOR METRO



Humane Society cat Copy was neutered before being adopted.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO FILE

## Kenya. U of M program to offer nutrition services

The University of Manitoba is getting a boost in funding to create a nutrition program on maternal and child health.

As part of the \$2.2-million program, the Centre for Global Public Health and partnering NGOs will be implementing a project for newborn and child nutrition for vulnerable families in Kenya.

"We want to learn from what's happening (in Canada) and translate it to what we see and learn from Kenya to build better programs in both settings," said Dr. Lisa Avery, assistant professor at the Centre for Global Public Health.

Avery has been based in Kenya part time since 2005 and has been building relationships and conducting research since then. This new

### Quoted:

**"We expect to have a real impact on the lives of women and children in Kenya."**

Dr. James Blanchard  
Centre for Global Public Health

program will train 60 Kenyan women to identify at-risk families and supply them with resources on nutritional support.

"We are hoping to develop some good models for bringing together food security, human nutrition and public health," said Dr. James Blanchard, director of the Centre for Global Public Health.

ALYSSA MCDONALD/FOR METRO



Dr. Lisa Avery speaks at the funding announcement at the University of Manitoba on Tuesday. ALYSSA MCDONALD/FOR METRO

# From Winnipeg to Jordan and back: One writer's tale



Nahlah Ayed talks to the crowd at McNally Robinson Booksellers Monday evening. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

**Nahlah Ayed.**  
CBC correspondent's book release draws hundreds

 BERNICE PONTANILLA  
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Nahlah Ayed joined the ranks of Margaret Atwood and the late Peter Gzowski on Monday evening in Winnipeg.

That's what Terry MacLeod, host of the CBC's Information Radio morning show, said about the CBC's Middle East correspondent after it was standing-room only at McNally Robinson Booksellers on Grant Avenue for the launch of her book, *A Thousand Farewells: A Reporter's Journey from Refugee Camp to the Arab Spring*.

Hundreds also packed Atwood's and Gzowski's events previously.

Ayed was clearly moved by the large number of people who came to hear her speak, her voice breaking at times and her eyes glassy. She spoke lovingly about her hometown, saying that Winnipeg provided

her with a family even when she had not one blood relative there other than her parents and siblings.

At the end of her speech, she thanked everyone who attended and gave a special thank you to her parents and brother, who were also in the crowd.

In her book, Ayed chronicles her life journey. She was born in Winnipeg and lived in St. Boniface until she was six years old. Then, in 1976, her Palestinian parents relocated the entire family to a refugee camp in Amman, Jordan. While Ayed said the move was difficult, it did help her learn Arabic, which would come in handy when she began working for the CBC.

Seven years later, when Ayed was 13, the family moved back to Winnipeg, where she continued her education, went to the University of Manitoba and wrote for the campus newspaper, *The Manitoban*.

She joined the CBC in 2002 and has covered the important events in the Middle East, including last year's Arab Spring in Egypt.

McNally Robinson sold all copies of her book on Monday.

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## Inevitable breakup?

## Charest among those surprised by Ignatieff's musing

There are some surprised reactions to remarks from ex-Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff, who suggested in a BBC interview that Quebec and Canada are almost two separate countries floating towards a breakup.

That suggestion was met with resistance Tuesday from federalist Quebecers. "What I will tell you is a strong majority of Quebecers believe in Canada," said Quebec Premier Jean Charest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Crime

## Feds to hike victim surcharge

The federal government plans to double the victim surcharge levied against criminals. The surcharge goes to help victims.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says he will bring in legislation to set the surcharge at 30 per cent of any fine levied.

Where there are no fines, the charge will be \$100 for every summary conviction offence, and \$200 for an indictable offence. No exemptions, says Nicholson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Appeal

## Wife killer can collect on life insurance: Court

A man who killed his wife should be allowed to collect on her life-insurance policy because he was insane at the time, Ontario's top court ruled Tuesday.

In overturning a lower judge's decision, the Ontario Court of Appeal decided that public policy, which normally would bar killers from benefiting from their victims' deaths, does not apply in this case.

However, the court put its decision on hold to allow the government to try to seize the money.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Myanmar

## Sanctions yanked

Canada has suspended most of its sanctions against Myanmar in recognition of the country's moves towards democracy, with former political prisoner Aung Sang Suu Kyi winning a parliamentary seat in historic elections there earlier this month.

Sanctions on imports, exports and financial transactions will be suspended, and an embargo will be maintained on sales of arms. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# One dead following Prince George, B.C., sawmill explosion

## No warning.

Second deadly explosion this year prompts province to announce all sawmills will be inspected for safety

Evening shift workers at a Prince George, B.C., sawmill ran for their lives after an earth-shaking explosion and massive fire sent walls crumbling down on top of them.

The blast killed one person and critically injured at least seven more.

Colleagues at the Lakeland Sawmill scrambled to help each other, with one saying he used scissors to cut charred clothing off those whose burned skin was dripping.

"It was quite gruesome," said union rep Brian Croy.

One worker, suffering from burns, refused to sit on a chair, said Croy, because the injuries were less painful if he stood up and bounced around. THE CANADIAN PRESS



A large fire burns at the Lakeland Mills sawmill in Prince George, B.C., on Tuesday. ANDREW JOHNSON EDIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Hey big spender

## Oda not the biggest spender

Bev Oda may be in hot water for her champagne tastes, but by no means is she the highest-spending member of Stephen Harper's cabinet.

That distinction goes to Gerry Ritz.

The agriculture minister has racked up the biggest travel and hospitality tab of any of his Conservative colleagues in recent years.

That's apparently because of trade missions that have taken him all over the globe.

It has cost \$271,489 since March 2010 to send Ritz to such far-flung destinations as Italy, Turkey, Indonesia and Japan.

He edged out Finance Minister Jim Flaherty to claim the top spot.

Travel and hospitality costs for Flaherty came to \$270,119.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay came in third with expenses of \$265,286.

The government says its travel costs are down 15 per cent compared to the former Liberal government and hospitality spending is down by 33 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Norway bombing detailed in court



Confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik confers with his defence lawyer in the courtroom in Oslo Tuesday. LISE ASERUD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

After testifying for five days, Anders Behring Breivik listened silently Tuesday as others described the mayhem caused by his bombing of Oslo's government district, a scene one witness described as a "war zone."

Forensic experts explained the massive injuries to four of the eight victims killed by the 950-kilogram fertilizer bomb on July 22, 2011. Breivik admits to the bombing and a subsequent shooting massacre at a Labor Party youth camp that left 69 people dead, most of them teenagers.

"More than 100 body parts were found in the government district," said Ole Morten Stoerseth, a police official tasked with identifying the blast victims.

Relatives of those killed sobbed and embraced during the autopsy presentations.

## Chilling

**"I estimated the chances of survival as less than five per cent."**

Anders Behring Breivik, confessed killer

Pictures of the victims' injuries were not shown in court but distributed to the judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers as well as the psychiatrists who are examining Breivik during the trial.

Breivik claims the attacks were "necessary" and that the victims had betrayed Norway by embracing immigration.

As he has for most of the trial, now in its seventh day, the far-right fanatic remained mostly expressionless during the hearing Tuesday. But he smiled when a security guard, who was inside the government high-rise when the bomb exploded, called Breivik's motive for the attacks "totally absurd."

Describing the confusion that followed the blast, police operations leader Thor Langli said the initial reports he received suggested there were two suspects, and two other bombs about to explode.

When he heard about the Utøya shooting, he started thinking the bomb and the massacre were the actions of the same person.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Summit. Nobel laureates meet to discuss peace

Poverty, a lack of education and arms proliferation present daunting obstacles, yet peace can be achieved if world leaders are more willing to talk and young people are encouraged to get involved, Nobel Peace Prize winners said at their annual meeting.

Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter and ex-presidents Mikhail Gorbachev of the former Soviet Union and Lech Walesa of Poland were among the Peace Prize winners in Chicago for the start of the three-day World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates.

The summit runs through Wednesday and comes just weeks before Chicago hosts

U.S. President Barack Obama, also a Nobel Peace Prize winner, and foreign leaders for the NATO summit, a meeting that is expected to draw large numbers of anti-war protesters. Obama did not attend Monday's meetings.

Actor Sean Penn on Wednesday will be presented with the 2012 Peace Summit Award for his work in Haiti.

Carter said that, as the last global superpower, the U.S. has a responsibility to be a leader in peace efforts and set an example to the rest of the world. Instead, he said, the U.S. is "too inclined to go to war" and is contemplating going to war again, "perhaps in Iran."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Europe

## Headscarf laws dangerous: Report

European laws on what girls and women wear on their heads are encouraging discrimination against Muslims and against a religion that has been part of Europe's fabric for centuries, Amnesty International says in a new

report. Extremist political movements targeting Muslim practices for criticism have grown in several European countries — as witnessed by French far-right leader Marine Le Pen's strong showing in presidential elections this week.

The Amnesty report lists a raft of examples of discrimination against Muslims from Spain to the Netherlands and Turkey. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## London marathon. Young woman's death inspires donations to charity

The death of a runner in the London marathon has inspired a flood of donations to the charity she supported.

Claire Squires, who ran to raise money for the Samaritans, which works to prevent suicide, collapsed Sunday near the end of the course. The cause of her death has not been determined.

By late Tuesday, donations made through her JustGiving.com web page had passed 412,000 pounds (\$664,000 US).

Squires, a 30-year-old hairdresser from North Kilworth, England, had climbed Mount Kilimanjaro with a friend last year to raise 1,500 pounds (\$2,400) for the Royal Air Force Association.

The Samaritans said donations will go into a tribute fund in Squires' name.

Chief executive Catherine Johnstone said the charity had been "overwhelmed" by the public response.

"This is an incredibly sad time for Claire's family and all those who knew her," she



Claire Squires CONTRIBUTED

said. "We desperately wish that it was not under these circumstances, but we have been overwhelmed by the response from people donating in Claire's memory."

Friends also paid tribute to Squires as a person committed to helping others.

"Claire was larger than life, fun-loving, bubbly, happy, cheerful, kind, giving, thoughtful," said Victoria Hauser. "She was just the most amazing person in the world — the best friend I have ever had."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Brazil

#### Political reporter gunned down

A crusading reporter who "breathed, dreamed and lived journalism 24 hours a day" was gunned down as he ate dinner, and colleagues said they are certain he was killed because of his work.

Decio Sa, a political reporter for the O Estado do Maranhao newspaper in Brazil, is at least the fourth journalist slain this year in the South American nation, one of the deadliest for reporters to work in, according to watchdog groups.

Brazil's National News-paper Association said on its website that Sa was killed because of his "courageous coverage of crimes committed by hired gunmen."

"He was the fourth journalist to be murdered in Brazil in 2012, highlighting the pernicious effect of the impunity that surrounds at-

tempts made against professionals who work to better inform citizens," the statement added.

The New York City-based Committee to Protect Journalists says on its website that 21 Brazilian journalists have been killed since 1992.

Silvia Moscoso, the newspaper's state affairs editor, described Sa as a "bold, loquacious and extremely friendly and generous reporter who breathed, dreamed and lived journalism 24 hours a day."

"He denounced wrongdoing, corruption, influence peddling and violence whenever he saw it — among politicians, police officers, businessmen, ranchers and state and city government officials. He wasn't scared of anyone," she said.

She said she never heard Sa mention death threats, and though "his death shocked all of us, it really did not take us by surprise."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Kony's whereabouts remain a mystery

**Uganda.** Soldiers say intelligence on Kony is so limited that if he dies, or is already dead, his foes may never know

An Internet campaign that's gone viral aims to capture notorious rebel leader Joseph Kony, but Ugandan foot soldiers who have spent years searching for the man are starting to ask a question their top commanders prefer to ignore: Is it possible he is dead?

Ugandan army officials say the Lord's Resistance Army leader is alive and hiding somewhere within the Central African Republic.

Rank-and-file soldiers, however, say intelligence on Kony is so limited that if he dies, or is already dead, his foes might never know and could wind up chasing a ghost through this vast central African jungle.



Ugandan soldiers hunting for fugitive warlord Joseph Kony receive a briefing from their commander near the River Vovodo, in the Central African Republic. RODNEY MUHUMUZA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In interviews last week with an Associated Press reporter who trekked with them in the jungle, soldiers in one of many Kony hunting squads said their task in the Central African Republic could no longer be described as a manhunt.

The soldiers, who requested anonymity for fear

of punishment, said for years there has been no LRA presence in the areas they patrol.

The soldiers are growing increasingly disillusioned, complaining of boredom and having to carry around heavy guns they never expect to use.

"Our commanders don't want you to know the truth," one of them said on the banks

of the Vovodo river, his colleagues nodding in approval. "They want to keep us here, but up to now our squad has never come across any rebels."

Another soldier said: "We are bored. We have nothing to do. We are mobile every day but we never see the enemy."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Hudson leaves court before grisly pics

The trial of the man charged with murdering three of Jennifer Hudson's family members resumed Tuesday with the Oscar winner shutting her eyes as a police officer described finding her dead family members and later leaving the courtroom before photos of their bodies were shown.

Hudson watched most of the testimony before getting up and leaving shortly before prosecutors displayed pictures of her mother and brother's bloodied bodies. Prosecutors often let family members know when they will be showing unsettling evidence.

A day after Hudson offered emotional testimony, prosecutors began shifting their focus to presenting crime-scene evidence in the case against her former

brother-in-law, William Balfour.

Balfour was estranged from his wife, Hudson's sister, at the time of the killings. He has pleaded not guilty to murdering Hudson's mother, brother and seven-year-old nephew.

Earlier in the day, Hudson hung her head and shut her eyes as Chicago police Sgt. David Dowling described finding her mother's body in the living room with gunshot wounds through her back. Dowling described finding Jason Hudson dead in his bed, with the sheets pulled up as if he had been sleeping.

Hudson, wearing a black top and green skirt, sat in a fourth-row bench well within view of jurors Tuesday. Her sister and Balfour's ex-wife, Julia Hudson, sat on her left.

Chicago prosecutors created a buzz Monday by calling the Oscar winner and American Idol finalist as their first witness, but on Tuesday they began getting down to the nitty-gritty of their case.

With no surviving witnesses to the murders, prosecutors must offer overwhelming circumstantial evidence that Balfour committed the grisly crime on Oct. 24, 2008. They are expected to introduce evidence in the next few days that includes cellphone records and security-camera footage that place Balfour in the area of the killings, because he denies he was there.

Another challenge will be tying Balfour to the alleged murder weapon, a silver and black .45-calibre handgun that sat Monday on a stack

of papers at the prosecution table in plain view of jurors and Jennifer Hudson.

Public defender Amy Thompson told jurors during her opening statement that DNA found on the gun didn't match Balfour, which "absolutely, positively" excludes him as the killer. But prosecutors claim that Balfour targeted the family in a horrific act of vindictiveness against his ex-wife.

Shortly after Thompson and prosecutors laid out their cases, Jennifer Hudson took the witness stand in sometimes tearful, gut-wrenching testimony. Hudson, who was in Florida at the time of the shootings, spoke of her family and her reaction to her sister, Julia Hudson, telling her in 2006 that she was marrying Balfour.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Hey look, it's the friendly death guy



**Downtown Eastside avenger.** Thanatos celebrates five years of costumed community work



MATT  
KIELTYKA

Metro in Vancouver

**Page 1, panel 1.** "These streets have a lot of stories to tell." Every corner, every nook and cranny in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside has a history. Tales of tragedy, legends of love, anecdotes of apathy, chronicles of compassion. Each person has a role to play.

**Panel 2.** The dark silhouette of a trench coat and brimmed hat enters the frame.

Only the figure's green skull — death itself — is visible. The shadowy figure ominously reaches into a sack, grabs something and slowly takes his arm out to reveal ... a sock.

"Hey, how are you doing?" the costumed man cheerfully asks. "Would you like a pair of socks? They're free!"

Enter Thanatos, the friendliest incarnation of the Grim

Reaper you'll ever find, Vancouver's very own real-life charitable superhero.

This is his story. For the last five years, Thanatos — a 63-year-old professional, husband and father in his "real" life — has been strolling through the Downtown Eastside, handing out clothing, blankets, food and water to residents in need.

Like his comic-book heroes, his driving desire to dress up and patrol the area is driven by an overwhelming desire to make the world a better place, right wrongs and lend a helping hand to his community.

"I don't come from Krypton and wasn't bitten by a radioactive spider or anything like that," Thanatos, named after the Greek god of death, says of his origin story.

"I was working downtown, trying to help out on the streets, and noticing a lot of things happening ... people living and dying on the streets.

"I was told by a police officer that some people on the street had nothing better to look forward to than death. That really stung, that really hurt me," he said, a slightly high-pitched voice barely muffled through the fabric hood. "So I said, 'If that's the case, then death better get out there and start taking care of these people.' I developed this persona to go out there and help."

He's been going strong ever since, garnering international media attention while using his unique — some say crazy — approach to giving back to shine a light on the poverty and social issues afflicting one of Canada's most infamous and misunderstood neighbourhoods.

## Residents' reaction

**Writer Nadia Fezzani visits the Downtown Eastside to find out what people think of Thanatos.**

- Once on Hastings, I walked along a couple of blocks where there were lots of people. Some were selling drugs; others appeared to be selling stolen goods. I asked if they knew who the man who represented death was. Although some of them didn't know his name, many people knew but did not

want to talk about him.

- One of the few who would speak about him was selling goods from a blanket spread out on the sidewalk. I asked her if she knew the superhero. "Yes," she said nervously. Watching her surroundings, she told me Thanatos was a very nice man but that she didn't really know much about him. As I was leaving, a few men approached me to tell me how amazing a man he is.

His biggest claim to fame was a starring role in the 2011 HBO documentary *Superheroes*, which profiled some of the 400 Real-Life Superheroes operating throughout North America.

If local residents don't notice Thanatos from his adventures in the area, they've seen him on TV.

In fact, two fans had one such encounter on the hero's recent stroll through the DTES with Metro.

"You're awesome," said a stranger with long, ratty hair and a teardrop tattoo under his eye. "Keep up the good work."

A quick fist bump and Thanatos was back at delivering socks into the hands of people cowering under archways, door portals and bridge underpasses on a typical rainy day.

Onlookers laugh, passing motorists slow down for a look and camera phones are whipped out when Thanatos is near.

He's a draw, but it's not about him.

"It gets the attention where it's needed," the masked avenger says. "By using this persona, I've been able to spread the word about what's going on down there; I've been able to get more aid in the area. I'm asked by reporters if it actually works, and it's like, 'Well, you're here talking to me right now,' so it's obviously working."

And like any of his fictional heroes, Thanatos' work is never done.

"I'm an average person that just wants to do something and make a difference. People want to know what Real-Life Superheroes are all about," he says. "Apathy is the biggest killer out there. That's what we do: We fight apathy. We get people involved and we inspire them."

**Final panel.** The shadowy figure fearlessly runs toward his next adventure. To be continued.

## 60 seconds

### An interview with Thanatos Necrium

#### Why did you choose Thanatos, or death, as your superhero character?

I've been doing this for a little more than four years. I've always been someone to get involved. I worked on my own down on Hastings Street and with small groups, trying to help out with the homeless with handouts and counselling and to point them in the right direction. It was very difficult, and I couldn't get anyone's attention. Nobody wanted to listen. One day, a police officer told me, "You know, people on the street really have nothing bet-

ter to look forward to other than death." And that really stunned me. So I said, "If that is the case, then death is going to have to get out there and start taking care of these people!"

#### Does the mask have an impact on people?

I am drawing attention. Social workers see these people in the morning, and people don't remember them by the afternoon. Me, they remember. They remember the crazy guy with a mask out there helping and that's all I care about. I've had people from France, from Germany, from all over the States come to talk to me because I put on a mask and I'm drawing attention to a problem. Nobody wants to talk to me, Joe Blow. But they'll listen to Thanatos. There are people who



say this is an ego trip. If this were an ego trip, would I hide behind the mask?

#### As a Real-Life Superhero, what do you do, exactly?

I'm an extra set of eyes and ears for the police. I help the homeless on the street with handouts of blankets, food, simple things like a loaf of bread, sometimes something as

simple as human touch and companionship. I keep an eye on them and I draw attention to the plight of people who fall through the system and end up on the streets. In my city alone I've probably reached out and touched 600 people.

NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

TO READ THE FULL INTERVIEW, VISIT  
METRONEWS.CA/FEATURES

## In Metro Thursday

- Super villains vs. superheroes:** Who are super villains and what role do they play?

## More at metronews.ca

- Video:** Real-Life Superhero Thanatos tells his story. Metro Vancouver reporters followed Thanatos on a rainy afternoon as he patrolled the gritty streets of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.
- Slideshow:** The women among the Real-Life Superheroes.



Vancouver Real-Life Superhero Thanatos. PETER TA



# Putting the 'her' in superheroes

Currently, there are about 15 female Real-Life Superheroes in North America. Most of them work with a team or as one half of a couple, but some of them also act on their own

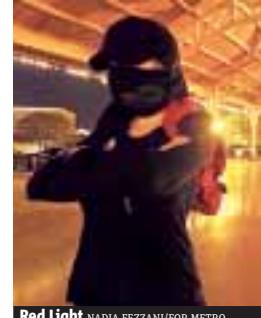
## Red Light. Street patrol

Red Light was only 15 years old when she decided to make a difference by volunteering at an elder-care facility. At 17, she was doing homeless outreach. Six months ago, she started to patrol almost every night, sometimes 12 hours at a time. Today, she still patrols 15 to 20 hours a week.

Working alone, she has to be careful with her actions. For example, she helps people by talking down a dispute or finding rides for those who are too drunk to drive. When the situation is too risky, she serves as an extra set of eyes and ears, and calls authorities when she witnesses suspicious activities or mistreatment of animals.

She decided to start working toward her EMT certification after trying to rescue a man suffering from a heroin overdose. "Many of my other skills were picked up through experience. I learned how to fight by necessity. I learned vigilance by being different. I learned to stay calm in a crisis by conditioning," explains Red.

Growing up, she was subject to sexual abuse and domestic violence. She was also diagnosed with a malignant tumour in her stomach at 28 years old. It took her five years to get the necessary funds to



Red Light NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

go through her operation. She has become aware of her own mortality. "I feel like I've already been given extra time, so I'm not afraid of dying. Every day is another chance to make things better."

Now, with her red hair past her knees, she plans on donating it to Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that takes human-hair donations and creates wigs for young chemotherapy patients.

"Life is only as bad as you let it be. It's easy to forget how much we have when it feels like we have to fight so hard to keep it. It hasn't stopped me from being kind to people. I still patrol. I still help others. Anyone can do something. Anyone." NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

## Purple Reign. Night crime

For more than a year, Purple Reign was abused by her boyfriend — physically, emotionally and mentally. One night, when she was given permission to go out with friends — which didn't happen very often — Reign returned home to find her boyfriend angry and belligerent.

He attacked her.

"I told him I was going to call the police. I tried to escape and he kept coming after me," she says.

She threw open the door, yelling, hoping someone in the condo complex would hear her. No one came to her aid.

"He was choking me and banging my head against the floor. I started to lose consciousness and I couldn't breathe. I just gave up because I felt so low to begin with. I was finished fighting."

Finally spent, her boyfriend stopped hitting her. With the help of a domestic-violence lawyer, she kicked her boyfriend out and moved right



Purple Reign RYAN MCNAMEE/FOR METRO

away so her ex couldn't find her.

Within in a year, she met with Real Life Superhero Phoenix Jones and engaged in a healthy and loving relationship with him. She patrols with the Rain City Superheroes, a group of heroes from Seattle who fight crime at night.

She has since founded the non-profit Purple Reign Campaign — [purplereigncampaign.org](http://purplereigncampaign.org) — through which she raises funds for the Northwest Family Life non-profit organization. They help victims of domestic abuse by proving them with education and assistance.

NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

## Women heroes



## 1 The Handler. Los Angeles

The owner of a dog-training school searches for stray animals and finds them new homes.

## 2 KatWoman. Cleveland

With the Underground Justice League Alliance, KatWoman engages in crime prevention and homeless outreach and helps locate missing people. A registered nurse, she also provides first aid to the injured.

## 3 Rock N. Roll. San Francisco

Rock N. Roll donates and distributes food and clothing to the less fortunate. She collects syringes in a public area frequented by intravenous drug users. She is the co-founder of the California Initiative and the S.T.A.N.D. news site.

## 4 Misery White. Minneapolis

Misery White champions anti-bullying, domestic-violence and child-abuse education and prevention programs. She also advocates for shelters, food banks and homeless outreach.

## 5 Crimson Catalyst. Chicago

Crimson Catalyst, a model and stage performer, patrols the streets and distributes food and supplies to the homeless. All of the meals are prepared by her.

NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

## Online filing cabinet. Google unveils digital content storage service

Google is hoping to build the world's largest digital filing cabinet in the latest attempt to deepen people's dependence on its services.

The Internet search leader's latest product stores personal documents, photos, videos and a wide range of other digital content on Google's computers. By keeping files in massive data centres, users will be able to call up the information on their smartphones, tablet computers, laptops and just about any other Internet-connected device. Google Inc. announced the long-rumoured service Tuesday. Called Google Drive, the service is offering the first five gigabytes of storage per account for free. Additional storage will be

### Competitor

While San Francisco startup Dropbox Inc. has emerged as the early favourite among consumers, another startup called Box Inc. has carved a niche offering online storage for businesses.

- Box has raised \$162 million US in venture capital and boasts about 120,000 companies as clients.

sold for prices starting at \$2.49 US per month for 25 gigabytes up to \$49.99 US per month for one terabyte.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Market Minute



**DOLLAR**  
101.21¢  
(+0.30¢)

**TSX**  
11,980.1 (-8.85)

**OIL**  
\$103.55 US (+44¢)

**GOLD**  
\$1,634.80 US (+\$11.20)

Natural gas: \$1.975 (-3.2¢)  
Dow Jones: 13,001.56 (+74.39)

# Tycoons announce cosmic mining venture

### 10-year plan.

Filmmaker James Cameron, Silicon Valley titans look to space to extract minerals

Space-faring robots could be extracting gold and platinum from asteroids within 10 years if a new venture backed by two Silicon Valley titans and filmmaker James Cameron goes as planned.

Outside experts are skeptical about the project, announced at a news conference in Seattle Tuesday, which would likely require untold millions, or perhaps billions of dollars and huge advances

### Space Age

**"It's the stuff of science fiction, but like so many other areas of science fiction, it's possible."**

Thomas Jones, former astronaut



Planetary Resources mechanical engineer Peter Illsley puts finishing touches on a prototype model of a low-orbit spacecraft, with the plan to mine nearby asteroids such as the near-Earth asteroid Eros, right.

ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



in technology. But the same entrepreneurs pioneered the selling of space rides to tourists — a notion that seemed fanciful not long ago, too.

"Since my early teen-

age years, I've wanted to be an asteroid miner. I always viewed it as a glamorous vision of where we could go," Peter Diamandis, one of the founders of Planetary Resour-

ces, said at a news conference at the Museum of Flight in Seattle. The company's vision "is to make the resources of space available to humanity."

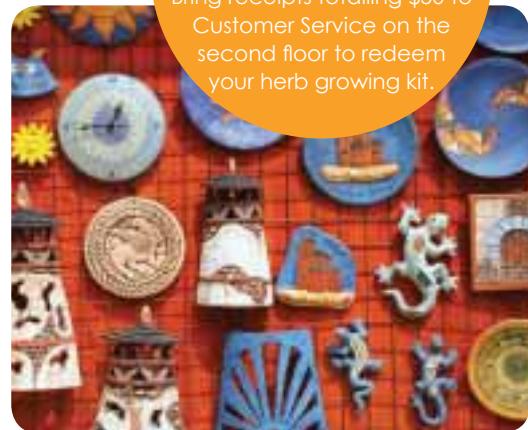
The inaugural step, to be achieved in the next 18 to 24 months, would be launching the first in a series of private telescopes that would search for the right type of asteroids.

The plan is to use commercially built robotic ships to squeeze rocket fuel and valuable minerals out of the rocks that routinely whiz by Earth. One of the company founders predicts they could have their version of a space-based gas station up and running by 2020.

Several scientists not involved in the project said they were simultaneously thrilled and wary, calling the plan daring, difficult — and very pricey. They don't see how it could be cost-effective, even with platinum and gold worth nearly \$1,600 US an ounce.

An upcoming NASA mission to return just two ounces (60 grams) of an asteroid to Earth will cost about \$1 billion. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## TOMORROW AND FRIDAY AT PORTAGE PLACE DON'T MISS THE SPRING CRAFT SALE 11AM - 4PM IN EDMONTON COURT



**FIND THE PERFECT GIFT FOR MOM!  
AT THE PORTAGE PLACE SPRING CRAFT SALE**

**PORTAGE  
PLACE**

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# BACK WHEN SPAM WAS SOMETHING YOU DIGESTED, NOT DELETED



JUST  
SAYIN'  
Paul Sullivan  
metronews.ca/justsaying

Did you know there's an Internet Hall of Fame?

Well, there is, and the first inductees were announced on Monday—33 in total, 30 men and three women. One of the

women was known as Jake and another was named Mitchell. So far, Geek Valhalla is a man's world.

Oct. 29, 1969, 22:30 hours. That's when the first message was sent on ARPANET, the Internet's immediate predecessor. It was from the Nigerian foreign minister, offering the recipient \$20 million in exchange for his bank-account number (LOL).

The Nigerian foreign minister is not among the inductees, but you'll be pleased to know that Al Gore is. Al, the 45th vice-president of the United States and the poster boy for climate change, is also famous for allegedly claiming to have invented the Internet, a universally ridiculed contention. Yet,

there he is, one of the kids in the hall. Not for inventing the Internet per se, but coming pretty close: Hailed as a "Global Connector" and helping to invent "the information superhighway" along which many a frustrated computer illiterate has become electronic roadkill.

The truth is there's not exactly one inventor of the Internet, because a bunch of old white guys flipped the switches. But the honour for the vision could go to J.C.R. Licklider of MIT, who released a paper in August 1962 on a "Galactic Network," a globally interconnected set of computers through which everyone could quickly access data and programs from any site. It was called Amazon (LOL, again).

Oddly, Jeff Bezos, the man who actually invented Amazon, isn't on the list, at least not yet, while Craig Newmark is. Newmark, of course, invented Craigslist, without which there would be no roommates or used-car sales, so I guess he's more important.

It's hard to believe that the Internet is over 40, especially because the only people who really know how to use it are 14. We've come a long way from a time when pioneers such as Vint Cerf and Tim Berners-Lee (both inductees) envisioned a global electronic village to a day when people can pump out brainless, 140-character declarations about nothing 24-7.

I mean, where would we be without Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest and Netflix? Back in the cave with Don Draper ordering three-martini, smartphone-free lunches? The first email message went out in 1972, and it went straight to my junk mail folder along with the Viagra ads.

Imagine what it was like before that, a time before your pocket buzzed every 30 seconds and when you missed an episode of Game of Thrones you could only wait until next summer for the reruns.

Hard to imagine. Check it out: [internethalloffame.org](http://internethalloffame.org).



As we can see, the Internet has helped us to make huge technological advances. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

## Rubber hen in space? She's no chicken!



NASA /REX FEATURES

### Guinea pig

#### Rubber chicken flies into storm

**SPACE.** A plucky rubber chicken has been sent into space to study a solar storm. "Camilla" has boldly gone where no chicken has gone before, after being attached to a helium balloon and sent to an altitude of 36 kilometres.

The hen was used to test levels of radiation in one of the strongest proton storms since 2003. **METRO**

### Bird in space

#### One powerful rubber mascot

**SCIENCE PROJECT.** The stunt was carried out by Bishop Union High School students in California, as part of their science project last month.

Many space enthusiasts will be familiar with Camilla, who is the mascot of NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, and has more than 20,000 followers on social-media websites.

**METRO**



Camilla's helium balloon pops.  
EARTH TO SKY/BISHOP CA

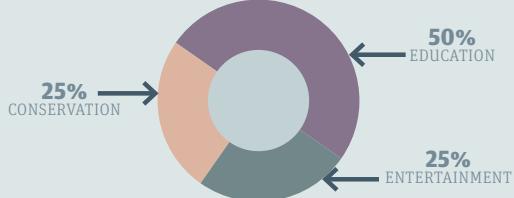
### Camilla's flight

- **Scientific study:** In her two-and-a-half-hour flight, Camilla spent about 90 minutes in the stratosphere, where temperatures and air pressures are similar to those on Mars. On her specially knitted space suit, she wore a pair of radiation badges—the same kind donned by medical technicians and nuclear workers to assess their dosages.



Register at [metropolitanpanel.ca](http://metropolitanpanel.ca) and take the quick poll

#### What's the main purpose of a zoo?



Twitter

@SteveMc888: Congrats to the Winnipeg Jets/Phoenix Coyotes/Quebec Nordiques for finally making it to the 2nd round in my life time

@RArseny: Biking around Winnipeg today for a few hours.. Would be a good routine to get in shape somehow ah! So glad to do it on a nice day like today

@robskarg1: So impressed with #Winnipeg's

traffic light timing ... #sarcastictweet

@MattBolivar: Imagine the #Leafs go for Luongo. Good god, I think that would be the final straw. I'd be cheering for Winnipeg from then on.

@hellspharmacist: I don't advocate graffiti, but whoever wrote 'You Shall Not Pass' on the construction sign at Miser-cordia is a comic genius. #winnipeg

Jason Statham doesn't stray far from his wheelhouse in his new movie, *Safe*. HANDOUT

## Scene in brief

### Seacrest staying on with *Idol*

Ryan Seacrest is sticking around as host of *American Idol*. The Fox network said Monday night that Seacrest will continue as host of the hit TV singing-competition series, over which he has presided since its premiere a decade ago. The network gave no specifics about the length of his new contract, or any monetary details. Seacrest called the show's run until now "a wild ride," and said he is excited it will continue with him on board.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Brand stands up for drug addicts

Comedian Russell Brand says "love and compassion" are key to weaning addicts off drugs. Brand testified before a U.K. parliamentary committee on Tuesday about his own experience with addiction, and said society should not "discard people, write them off on methadone and leave them on the sidelines."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**If it ain't broke...** It may have all been done before by the action star, but his new film is likely to be a *Safe* bet at the box office



IN FOCUS  
Richard Crouse  
scene@metronews.ca

Movie tough-guy Jason Statham is either remarkably consistent or just really enjoys playing guys who can break your neck with his steely gaze. Whatever the case, when you pay your money for a Statham

flick, you know in advance what you're getting into.

In this weekend's *Safe*, the gravelly-voiced action hero digs deep into his bag of tricks to play Luke Wright, a.k.a. Statham Character #2. That's the "loner with a past who must protect a youthful innocent." (As opposed to Statham Character #1 in which he plays a "loner with a past who must protect a loved one.")

Like his other movies, *Safe* is a marketers dream. Here's a sample ad:

Body Count: 350  
Bullet Budget: \$1,000,000  
Jason Statham's Steely Glare: Priceless

Recently a scientific poll — OK, I posted a question on Facebook — posed this question: What makes Statham movies so popular? Here are

#### Jason Statham

His über-macho presence is more important than the script — as long as he is in motion, running and leaping, kicking and punching, his films work.

some of the comments:

- His Blue Steel stare puts *Zoolander* to shame!
- His complete lack of facial movement? It's like if Buster Keaton were an emotionless British killing machine.
- He always manages to kick someone's butt while being tied to a chair.
- Not since Don Johnson, circa *Miami Vice*, has an actor managed to maintain a perfect three-day stubble...

Let's face it, his movies are more than a bit predictable.

"You gotta be kidding me!" you'll be tempted to groan at some of the plot twists — if only the movie's characters didn't beat you to it.

They are cliché-a-thons, but

because Statham understands his audience and persona, his

films are dumb good fun. His

über-macho presence is more

important than the script. As

long as he is in motion, run-

ning and leaping, kicking and

punching, and giving voice to

action-movie platitudes in his

distinctive English rasp, his

pictures work.

Statham has made films like *Transporter*, *Killer Elite* and *The Mechanic* over and over again. Different title, and sometimes with a big-name supporting cast (like Robert De Niro and Clive Owen) and sometimes not (*Safe* co-stars newcomer Catherine Chan), but the story of a tough guy who lives in a world where "Everybody knows the rules — there are no rules," is the common thread.

Statham, however, says he's open to showing audiences another side of his personality.

When a Huffington Post writer asked if he would make a rom-com with Reese Witherspoon he said, "Of course, I would love to do that. But my phone is right there and it ain't f—ing ringing."

## Musician willing to share spotlight

**Esperanza Spalding.** Jazz singer and bassist prizes playing with other musicians, but it was her Oscar solo spot that got big buzz

Esperanza Spalding isn't about being a lone star. Above all, the jazz singer and bassist prizes playing with other musicians and sharing the experience.

That includes her special

performance of Louis Armstrong's *What a Wonderful World* at the 2012 Oscars in February.

"It certainly was special, but ... it was a surprise. I went just to play bass. It was supposed to be a collective effort that Hans Zimmer imagined," says Spalding of the musical director.

"We wanted it to be everyone just playing together. The camera didn't show that, but that's what I signed up for. Then I was asked to sing with the children's choir. That was such a small part. I had

played bass all night in the orchestra with these wonderful musicians."

Spalding's team-player attitude spreads to her spring tour for her fourth album, *Radio Music Society*, when her band includes almost a dozen players. Still, it was her Oscar solo spot that gave her big buzz.

"It was really great exposure for me. It was great to be a part of it. I got to hang with Billy Crystal," she says.

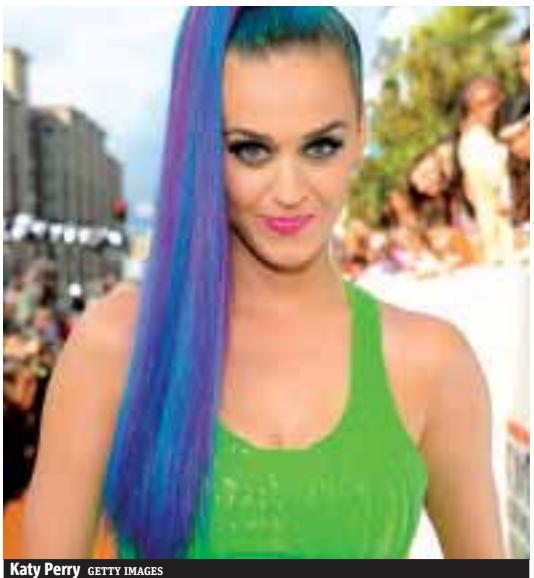
"He did an amazing job hosting; he totally nailed that singing part. He's awesome."



#### On the web



Zac Efron brings *The Lucky One* to London for European premiere



Katy Perry GETTY IMAGES

## Katy spotted cuddling with Florence and the Machine guitarist

It looks like Katy Perry is moving on after her divorce from Russell Brand.

The pop singer was spotted at the Coachella music festival holding hands, cuddling and generally acting like a couple with Florence and the Machine guitarist

Robert Ackroyd, according to Hollyscoop.

Of course, Perry has also recently been linked to French singer and model Baptiste Giabiconi, with his rep going so far as to confirm their getting to know each other.

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

### Celebrity fetus round-up



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson  
scene@metronews.ca

It's a slow gossip day, so let's check in with everyone's favourite subject: The uterus of the stars!

First up: Jessica Simpson, who, it should be noted, is still pregnant. (At this point, does anyone else feel like Simpson is going to be in the Guinness Book of World Records for "mammal with the longest gestation period," right next to "elephant"?)

Even the *Fashion Star* mentor knows this is a seemingly never-ending pregnancy: "To everyone who keeps congratulating me on the birth of my baby girl ... I'm still pregnant!"

Simpson tweeted Saturday, "Don't believe what you read, ladies and gents."

Meanwhile, *Life & Style* is reporting that Drew Barrymore, who has yet to confirm her pregnancy, is, like Simpson, having a girl. A source close to Drew "exclusively revealed" the sex of the child to *Life & Style*.

I'd take this news with a grain of salt, folks, as no "close" friend would sell out such sacred information to a tabloid. That being said, there's a 50/50 chance that this made-up information is correct.

And, just in case you missed it: Giuliana and Bill Rancic, whose struggles with infertility are well documented, announced Monday on *Today* that they are going to have a baby via a gestational carrier.

Let's just hope this carrier isn't on the Jessica Simpson timeline of giving birth.

## Aniston scoping out wedding venues on the island of Crete?

Jennifer Aniston reportedly used a recent European vacation with Justin Theroux to scope out potential wedding venues, according to TMZ.

The pair are said to have been particularly enamored with Elouda Beach, a remote and secluded

fishing port on the island of Crete — which also happens to be the birthplace of Aniston's father.

Of course, the couple hasn't announced an engagement, let alone a wedding date, but sources tell TMZ Aniston is thinking about July.



Twitter



@jimmykimmel

I had the pleasure of working with Dick Clark many times — great guy. Some trivia: did you know he HATED music?



@katyperry

When is the Sublime hologram coming to coachella?! #805



@NiaVardalos

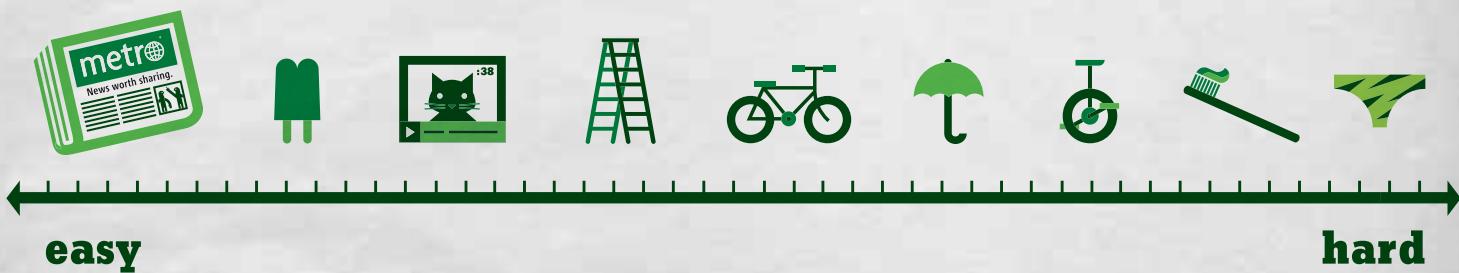
Just back from Disneyland, sunblock wore off, my shnozz has been replaced by an eggplant.



@AlbertBrooks

I wonder if the U.S. purposely sends out crappy drones so when they're captured China & Iran get bad info?

# Sharability



# 3

## LIFE

### Travel in brief

#### Where to get the world's best sandwich

Grill some salami and baloney. Add Swiss or cheddar cheese. Slather on mustard. Put between yellow bread. What do you get? According to Travel and Leisure magazine, one of the world's best sandwiches. It's the Wilensky's Special, served at Wilensky's Light Lunch at the corner of Fairmont and Clark streets in Montreal's Mile End area. The diner was made famous by Mordecai Richler in his novel *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* and has an ambience that, according to Frommer's, "can best be described as Early Jewish Immigrant."

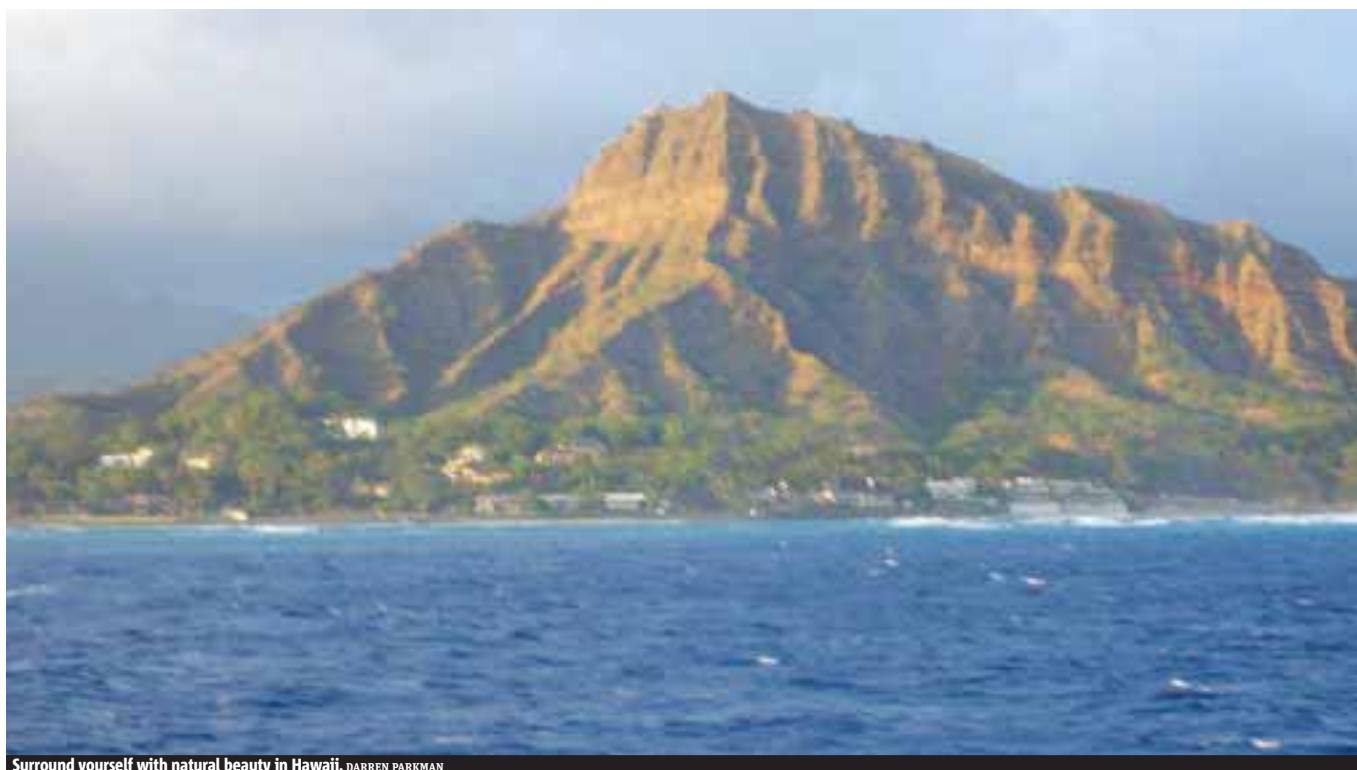
"Served on wax paper, the sandwich comes with rules: it always has mustard and is never halved," says Travel and Leisure. The price: \$4.99 (50 cents less without the cheese). Just because sandwiches are convenience foods doesn't mean they can't be great. A croque-monsieur in Paris, with mozzarella and black truffles, is a tasty treat, as is a lobster roll with melted butter in Essex, Mass. Here are some of the other "best sandwiches from around the world" on T&L's list: chicken Philly cheesesteak (Philadelphia); ham and cheese baguette (New York); squid in its own ink with aioli (Madrid); hand-massaged wagyu beef on white bread (Tokyo).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### On the web



Don't stay home because you lack a companion: Tips for travelling solo.



Surround yourself with natural beauty in Hawaii. DARREN PARKMAN

# Oahu's underwater views something to see

**Submarine fun.** The Travellin' Canadian overcomes his fear of small spaces for a deep-sea adventure



THE TRAVELLIN'  
CANADIAN  
Darren Parkman  
travel@metronews.ca

Pineapples and hula dancers are one thing, but deep-sea diving in a real submarine is quite another.

Despite my gripping fear of confined spaces, I found myself signing up for an undersea submarine adventure aboard the world's largest high-tech passenger sub — the Atlantis — during a recent respite to sunny Oahu.

Claim to fame aside, the Atlantis seemed downright tiny as I climbed down the narrow staircase to take my place inside this cramped metal tomb.

Thankfully, it was fully air-conditioned, but still I was sweating profusely as we sunk lower and lower down into the depths.

But the sights soon made me forget about my coward-

ice. The trip is well worth its cost of \$100. The undersea scenery is nothing short of spectacular, with an abundance of intricate reefs surrounded by fascinating sea critters. Gazing through my tiny seaport, I even spied a rather large and menacing reef shark swimming towards us.

That's around the time my fear of confined spaces was replaced with my other crushing phobia — sharks. Luckily, even sharks can't bite through submarines, so all was well.

After floating by an authentic shipwreck and amazing artificial reefs, I felt like it was plenty of adventure for the price as we made our way back to the surface.

Then it was time to partake in what has become a very trendy pastime in Hawaii these days — something called paddle-boarding.

For days, I'd seen people everywhere standing on surfboards with long paddles, riding waves and having fun. It appeared to be fairly easy. Turns out it really isn't.

Who knew you needed actual balancing skills to tackle this fun sport? So with gorgeous Diamond Head as a backdrop and pad-

dle in hand, I hopped on my board and promptly fell in the ocean, all in one motion. Repeated attempts produced the same results.

After 19 or so tries, I actually was able to balance on the wobbly board and paddle around for a bit before again plummeting into the drink.

Turns out this paddleboarding thing is actually quite a workout. I found just falling and climbing back onto the board multiple times was exhausting.

But that's OK — it's all part of fun on the water in Honolulu.

Aloha, baby!

### Other cool things to do...

- **Visit the Pearl Harbor Memorial.** Take a trip out to the floating memorial of the USS Arizona, commemorating the attack on Pearl Harbor. An historical and very sombre experience — this is a must do when in Honolulu.

- **Hike to the top of Diamond Head.** Climb a well-trodden path to the top of the 350-acre crater to experience spectacular views of downtown Honolulu. The hike is easy for young and old, and well worth it for the million-dollar views.



The Pearl Harbor Memorial. ISTOCK



# Welcome to the wonderful world of the Disney Fantasy

## Family-friendly

**cruising.** New Disney ship isn't just for kids — with a spa and fine dining, parents are also in for a good time

AURÉLIE  
RESCH

life@metronews.ca

"Aaaaah!" is all I hear before I get splashed by a father and his son dropping down from a huge water slide. Clearly there's no shortage of screams and laughter aboard the new Disney cruise ship, Disney Fantasy. From "All aboard!" to "Are you ready?", your cruise will be action-packed, with plenty of activities and shows.

## Action

Families and water-lovers will have a blast on decks 11 and 12 with water coasters, water sprouts, water games, two pools for children and one for adults. Get your thrills on the huge aerial slide. The AquaDuck is a one of kind — a 765-foot-long water coaster that spans four decks in height. A powerful stream of water propels guests on a little inflatable boat downhill, uphill and in various loops. Or if you feel like immersing yourself, have fun with the little ones in the shallow and warm Mickey Mouse pool. If you feel more like getting in a few laps, move to the Donald Duck pool where you'll be swimming pretty briskly to brave the cool waters. You might want to opt for the hot

tub facing the ocean after that.

Rested yet? Be ready after a hearty meal and an evening of entertainment with live Disney productions on stage, and activities, fireworks and a dance party through the night on deck 11.

## Indulgence

Now, if your idea of a cruise is quiet, indulgence and refinement, be Disney Fantasy's guest. If you came as a family, drop your children at Disney's Oceaneer Club, where they will have a blast playing with other children and taking part in the hundreds of activities that are offered.

Once the kids are looked after, head to the Senses Spa and Salon for an ultimate pampering retreat. Enjoy an oasis of calm and let the rainforest saunas and water therapies relax your mind and muscles.

Soak in a jacuzzi on a private veranda facing the sea while waiting for your treatment. You can choose from a variety of signature massages and treatments that will surely erase any stress and fatigue left in your body and mind. If you'd like to be active, but without any Disney characters fooling around, you can head to the gym next to the spa and exercise while admiring the ocean through the huge glass panels. You can also go for a swim in the adults-only pool and enjoy a cocktail in the sunshine with friends at the bar.

Romance and elegance is what you will find at Remy. This upscale restaurant offers fine French cuisine in a stylish Art Nouveau setting with

## Facts and figures

### The Disney Fantasy...

- Weights.** About 130,000 gross tons
- Stretches.** About 340 metres in length
- Crosses.** The width of 37 metres
- Carries.** A capacity of 4,000 passengers

a softly-lit ambiance for a dinner to remember.

The view of the ocean through the windows is breathtaking and all in this restaurant is designed to please your senses and create an intimate vibe. Palo is another fine adult-exclusive restaurant you might want to try for a taste of northern Italian flair. Also located on deck 12, it offers the same superb panorama view of the sea and an equally elegant setting.

Bars and lounges abound on Disney Fantasy and it will be your call to choose between a quiet alcove for a chat over a coffee or a cheerful happy hour. The Tube nightclub offers partygoers the possibility to end the night shimmying on an illuminated dance floor.

## A cruise for everybody

Come as a family, a couple, a group of friends or by yourself — aboard Disney's new ship, you're sure to find whatever you'd want to make your cruise memorable.



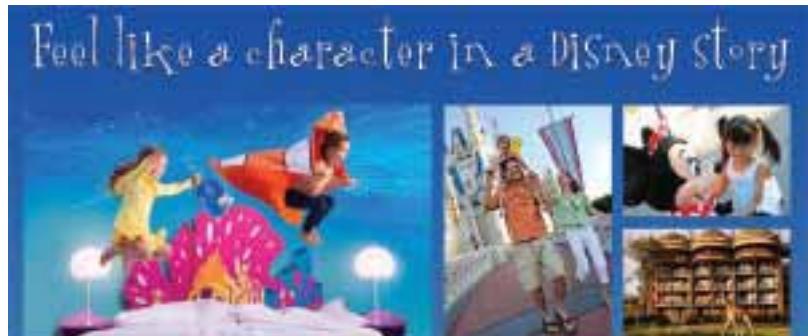
All aboard the Disney Fantasy are guaranteed to find something to suit their tastes. PHOTOS: AURÉLIE RESCH



Cool off in one of the many pools.



Fast and furious fun awaits.



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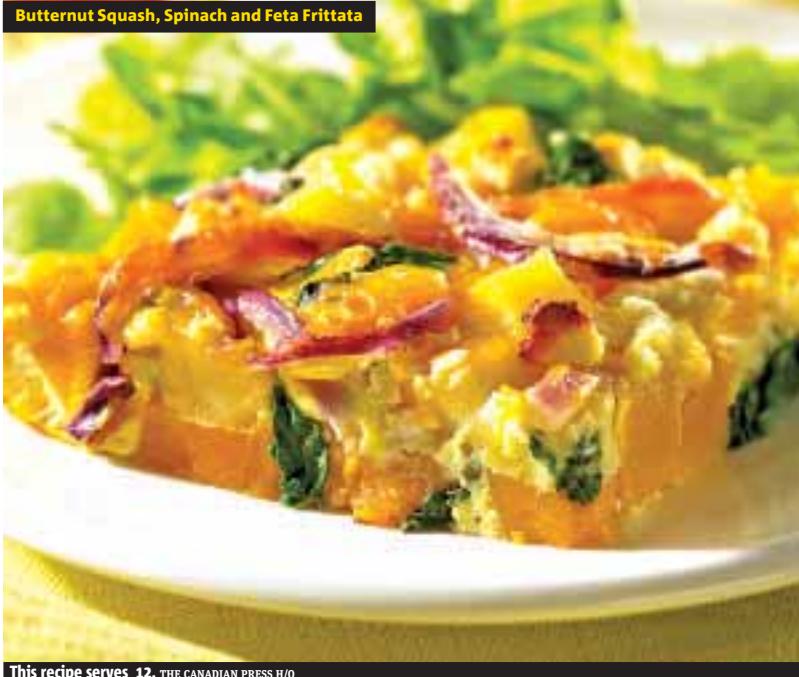
To register and for full contest details visit [clubmetro.com](http://clubmetro.com).

As to Disney properties/artwork: ©Disney. As to Disney/Pixar properties/artwork: ©Disney/Pixar.



# Local ingredients shine in Butternut Squash, Spinach and Feta Frittata

Butternut Squash, Spinach and Feta Frittata



This recipe serves 12. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

## What do I need to know to become a ( police officer )?

Explore what you want to be and how to get there.



Learn more at: [CareerBear.com](http://CareerBear.com)

"Butternut squash is a great local food for all of Canada," says Toronto-based Christy Brisette, a registered dietitian and spokesperson for Dietitians of Canada. "The frittata is full of beta-carotene. It's also a way to enjoy some greens and get some vegetables in there."

It can be served with a green salad or a steamed green vegetable such as peas, beans or edamame. For a protein boost, sprinkle the salad or vegetable with toasted nuts or seeds.

1. Grease 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) glass baking dish. Then place squash in microwave-safe bowl and cover with plastic

wrap, leaving a corner open to vent. Microwave on high for 5 minutes or until fork-tender. Drain off excess liquid. Stir in potatoes, spinach and red onion. Spread in baking dish.

2. In a bowl, whisk eggs, milk and pepper. Pour over veg and stir to distribute. Sprinkle evenly with cheddar and feta.

3. Bake in 200 C (400 F) oven 40 mins. or until eggs are set. THE CANADIAN PRESS/COOK! BY THE DIETITIANS OF CANADA/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR, TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT [EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA](http://EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA))

### Ingredients

- 1 butternut squash (about 2 lb/1 kg), peeled and cubed (1 to 1.25 litres/4 to 5 cups)
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) peeled and cubed potatoes
- 1 pkg (300 g/10 oz) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) thinly sliced red onion
- 8 eggs
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) 1% milk
- 1 mL (1/4 tsp) freshly ground black pepper
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) crumbled feta cheese

### Drink of the Week

#### Frangelico Truffle Cocktail

Fancy a Frangelico Truffle Cocktail?

You'll have an affection for this confection with a decadent combination of Frangelico, Skyy Vodka and a cold espresso shot.

Garnish it with chocolate shavings!

1. Shake with ice and serve up in a cocktail or martini glass. Dust with dark chocolate shavings.

- 1 oz Frangelico
- 1 oz SKYY vodka
- 3/4 oz cold espresso
- SKYY SPIRITS



## It's rich, creamy and filled with cheese

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Fill bowl with ice water.

2. Bring saucepan of water to a boil. Add asparagus and blanch 3 minutes or until just tender. Use slotted spoon to remove as-

### Ingredients

- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped asparagus (1.5-cm/1-inch lengths)
- 4 egg whites
- 2 whole eggs
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) fat-free half-and-half
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) shredded gruyere cheese
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 2 shallots, sliced
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) dice smoked ham
- 500 ml (2 cups) shredded frozen hash brown potatoes, thawed



This recipe serves eight. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

parus from boiling water and transfer to ice water. Once cool, drain and set aside.

3. In blender, combine egg whites, whole eggs, fat-free half-and-half, 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt and 1 ml (1/4 tsp) pepper. Blend until smooth. Stir in gruyere.

4. In oven-safe skillet over medium, heat oil. Add shallots and cook 4 mins. or until

soft. Add ham, asparagus and blended egg mix. Stir for 1 min. or until egg just starts to set up.

5. Sprinkle potatoes over top and sprinkle with salt and black pepper. Bake 5 mins. on centre rack or until eggs are set. Increase to broil and cook for 7 mins. or until potatoes are crisp and lightly browned. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

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Read metro work every Monday and Wednesday for tips and trends in education and employment.

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**Student Voice**

## Recruiters, be realistic

Seeba Alexander  
Graduate, Ontario College of Art and Design, Illustration  
Graduate, Centennial College  
Graphic Design Media

TalentEgg.ca

After finishing school for the second time, finding a job in the creative design field was harder than I thought it would be. In college, getting a good placement in graphic design was also difficult.

In desperation, I took an unpaid internship.

As it was unpaid, traveling, supporting myself financially and maintaining my part-time job was tough, not to mention physically and mentally draining.

The company expected me to work eight hours a day with only a 30-minute lunch. It was so terrible that I had to quit my paying job to focus on the internship.

After school was over, applying for jobs was tough. The worst part about applying is when employers say they will call you to let you know if they are interested or not, and then don't bother to follow up.

I applied to retail, hoping

to land a design-related job in the company later on, but no postings have appeared.

While working at my retail job and being on a probation period, I applied for an unpaid internship with a company who was interested in me.

However, they wanted me to commit to four days a week, but my schedule was not fixed at the other job. I told them my situation and they said that interning for two or three days instead was not possible.

I have applied to jobs on the OCAD job site and received two replies, one for a paying job and the other for an unpaid position.

For internships, companies should compensate in some way.

Otherwise, accept the fact that students have part-time jobs that they are committed to for financial reasons. If a student says they can only give two or three days in a week, it's not that they don't want to work more. They have no choice.

**TALENTEGG.CA**, CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND NEW GRADUATES, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT [TALENTEGG.CA](http://TALENTEGG.CA).

# From working for free to finally getting hired

**Intern to employee.**  
A guide to securing a spot by someone who managed to do it

**JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU**  
[TalentEgg.ca](http://TalentEgg.ca)

Ah, the beloved and yet begrimed unpaid internship. Is there any other position that elicits more mixed feelings?

It's an incredible opportunity that gives you that competitive edge to build your career, opens doors to much-needed work experience, and puts you in touch with a whole slew of potentially critical contacts.

But no monetary compensation? It's a tough pill to swallow.

I spent months as an intern for an international non-governmental organization and I turned that unpaid internship into a paid, previously nonexistent job. How? Let me tell you how it's done...

**Work as hard as you can**  
This should go without saying, but you've really got to treat



Make the absolute most of your time as a temporary part of a team while interning. **ISTOCK**

the internship like a real job. Take ownership of any and all of the tasks that are thrown your way. For the next coming months, that internship is your baby and you'd better make sure your baby is the healthiest, most successful baby there is! (Awkward analogy, but you know what I'm trying to say...)

**Offer to take on extra responsibilities**

Time permitting, of course. Show that you're a go-getter and willing to get your hands dirty. And don't just stick to

your department, either. Network with individuals from other areas of the company and see if there's anything you can do to help. Not only will you broaden your skill set beyond your general expertise, but you'll also broaden your exposure to different people who may be able to offer you a job in the future. **JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU** IS A COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL BY DAY AND A FREELANCE WRITER BY NIGHT. **TALENTEGG.CA** IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

**Pick up the phone**

Make a point of keeping in touch

• So maybe there just really isn't a job available for you right now. Still, keep in touch and check back every now and then just to say hello and touch base. Make sure you're always on their mind so if a position does open up, you'll be kept in mind.

• But here's hoping... By that time, you've already been scooped up by another company — because, let's face it, you're a pro!

**Twitter**

**TalentEgg** How can students make a good impression during a summer internship?

**@JillianAnnas** Learn what's ok, don't follow bad behaviour of others!

**@sidneyevermatrix** My 2cents: take initiative & be a problem solver

||||| FREE WORKSHOP! |||||

## STOP WORRYING ABOUT MONEY!

COMING TO WINNIPEG ON APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> and 27<sup>TH</sup>

I believe what is happening to our economy right now is NOT a "normal" cycle of recession, but a radical change that could wipe out the Middle Class and leave us with a society of only rich and poor.

**DO YOU WANT TO BE RICH OR POOR?  
YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CHOOSE**

A crisis like this is really your biggest opportunity because all the losers give up, and the playing field is left wide open to people who understand "The New Rules of Money." The winners will be people like you. That's what my Rich Dad Education™ training team will show you at a FREE "Learn to be Rich" Workshop.

**DON'T PANIC - GET PREPARED!**

What this recession reveals is that the rich have an UNFAIR ADVANTAGE, because it's not what they HAVE, it's what they KNOW that matters. The good news is that you can put this same unfair advantage to work for you!

**Our FREE "Learn to be Rich" Workshop is created for you to begin to get the knowledge you need to**

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- Build Long-term Cashflow
- Rescue Your Retirement

*This could be the turning point in your life... Even if you don't have money today!*

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Or Go To [www.FreeRichDadWorkshop.ca](http://www.FreeRichDadWorkshop.ca)

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# REAPING THE REWARDS

## EXPLORE THE GROWING WORLD OF INCENTIVES WITH REWARDS CANADA

If you are uncertain where to look for travel deals in a marketplace that is fast becoming a social media maze, Rewards Canada can help you map out a shortcut to savings. The easy-to-navigate website has a surplus of information on building rewards points for travel, whether it be earning frequent flyer miles with a specific airline or saving on the best hotels.

Rewards Canada has you covered with the most efficient ways to effortlessly maximize your travel savings.

Initially launched in September 2001, Rewards Canada provides easy access to articles, charts and information on all the current programs available. By simply visiting the website, consumers are able to pinpoint the most up-to-date offers. These incentives are quickly gaining momentum with Canadians in the know and there is a plethora of reasons to keep up with Rewards Canada.

According to Patrick Sojka, CEO and founder, many consumers are becoming knowledgeable in regards to the best ways to utilize rewards.

"The programs themselves are doing a good job of promoting the benefits of loyalty programs and consumers are getting very savvy by taking the time to learn all the ins and outs to make sure they maximize their experience in the world of earning the miles/points," he says.

Some of the most popular programs are Aeroplan and Air Miles, but Sojka says that newer programs are also rising through the ranks. For instance, WestJet Rewards have been gaining momentum



GEORGE DOYLE/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

over the last six months as it has broadened its focus to include the leisure traveller as well as the business traveller.

Rewards Canada currently focuses exclusively on travel rewards, but over the next year it will also be exploring further loyalty offers such as cash back credit cards. For those who may be uncertain how to get started, Sojka says all

the information is just a mouse click away.

"You just simply have to visit [RewardsCanada.ca](http://RewardsCanada.ca) to become aware of existing opportunities, but we also have a weekly newsletter that provides a roundup of all the items added to website over the previous week," he explains.

Rewards Canada also features a blog

and utilizes social media tools such as Facebook and Twitter. With a constant stream of new programs materializing, Sojka believes the choices are always growing and only getting better.

"It's an evolutionary process," he says. "New programs come out and improve on what the older ones provide."

To learn more, visit [rewardsCanada.ca/](http://rewardsCanada.ca/). — *Nicole Trask*



GEORGE DOYLE/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

## RECEIVE A WELL-DESERVED RETURN

There are customer loyalty incentives popping up everywhere, whether the focus is shopping, dining, fuel or even coffee.

Starbucks is one of the latest establishments to get on board with its My Starbucks Rewards card, which allows you to earn "stars" with every purchase. These can lead to free refills, a complimentary drink on your birthday, or a

shot of syrup or soy milk at no extra charge. Once you have earned 30 points, Starbucks bumps you up to gold and the options expand even further.

The shopping options are also endless with Indigo Books and Music, Chapters, Sobeys and Staples, all offering a bounty of attractive deals. The Body Shop features the Love Your Body card, which allows members to

receive 10 per cent off all qualifying purchases, birthday gift cards and exclusive offers during customer appreciation days.

With all the rewards programs bursting onto the scene, it has become easier than ever for loyal customers to save, feel appreciated and receive a well-deserved return on their purchases.

— *Nicole Trask*

# OPTIONS ABOUND FOR YOUR POINTS

Have you ever looked at piles of rewards points, thinking, "I can't get anything for that?" Take hope. You might not score that dream vacation, but there are ways to get something else worthwhile.

## INSTANT REDUCTIONS

Some programs recognize clients don't want to save up — they want savings, now. Air Miles began a "cash" program in March due to customer demand. "They really wanted the instant benefit of being able to get cash off," says Rachel MacQueen, a spokesperson for Air Miles. "It's picking up great momentum."

Linda DiMaria is a Toronto-based collector who likes the idea of cheaper gas and groceries.

"In this day and age, when money is a little scarce, it's nice to be able to use it towards things that we do need right now," she says.



ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

## TRADE 'EM IN

Explore whether you can exchange dead-weight points for useful ones. Your card issuer may already have agreements with other programs: For example, certain CIBC credit cards, American Express and Diners Club points can be converted into Aeroplan Miles. You need to own both accounts in the

exchange. Be aware the exchange rate may not be a direct one-to-one.

There is also the Toronto-based company Points.com, which allows you to trade points with other cardholders — for a fee. "There's a lot of overlap in the types of programs that people are participating in," says Points.com president Christopher Barnard.

"We've spent the last 10 years building up a really great relationship with companies around the world." That allows the unique service to move trades securely from one account to another.

## INTANGIBLE ITEMS

"I redeem online and get the gift cards through the mail, though I only do it once or twice a year after the points have accumulated," says Jessica Patterson, a Calgary-area collector. As a bonus, she can use the cards to shop for items on sale. If you are with RBC Rewards, you could even apply the points towards your mortgage or RRSP. "It's our fastest growing redemption option," says RBC spokesperson Matthew Gerasimczuk.

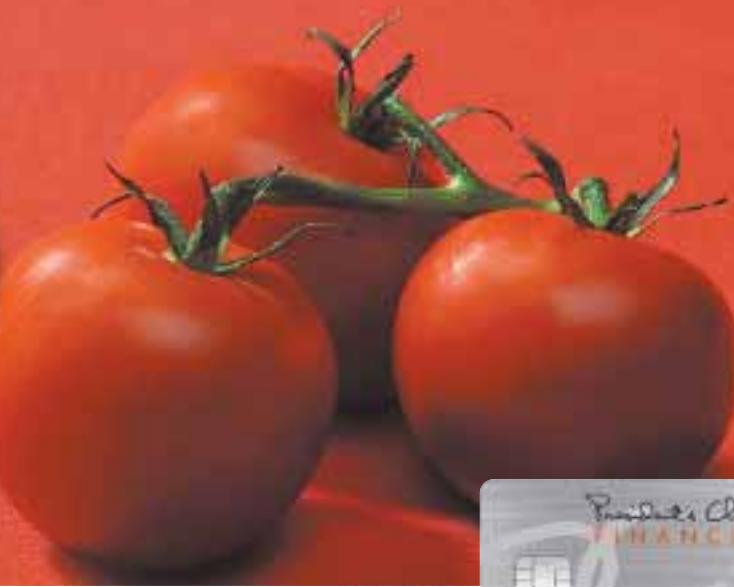
## DONATE

Many points programs allow you to donate to charity. There are big causes like Engineers Without Borders and War Child Canada, but some programs also allow small charities to register like the local Scouts troop, daycare, or food bank. Some offer a charitable tax receipt.

Overall, Patrick Sojka, the editor of Rewards Canada.ca, thinks the field of non-traditional rewards may continue to see more options. "There are some people who have way more miles and points than they know what to do with," he says.

—Shaina Luck

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# LOYAL CONSUMERS

## CANADIANS CHOOSE RETAILERS BASED ON REWARDS: SURVEY

Canadian consumers aren't the only ones who love loyalty points and rewards.

Retailers — from airlines and banks to grocery stores and hotels — love the sticky habits that keep their best customers coming back for more, new research shows.

A whopping 92 per cent of Canadians belong to at least one loyalty program.

The technical term for that sky-high participation rate is "everybody," quips Rob Daniel, vice-president of loyalty and research at Maritz Canada, a consulting firm that specializes in reward programs.

"The main reason why people love points and loyalty programs is really simple," he says. "They love the idea they're getting something in return for



DIGITAL VISION/THINKSTOCK

behaviours they would do anyway."

Each Canadian carries an average of six loyalty cards, although those who earn more than \$125,000 per year have double that number.

Here's the part that businesses love: Affluent consumers are most likely to change their shopping patterns to accommodate loyalty programs.

That's according to a year-long

survey commissioned by Maritz that spoke to more than 6,600 Canadians and covered 59 loyalty programs. It was released in February.

About two-thirds of those surveyed said they are more likely to continue doing business with a company that has a loyalty program. And just more than one-third, 35 per cent, have driven past one retailer to get to another one where

## GETTING A RUSH

The Maritz Canada study on loyalty programs also found: 38 per cent of those surveyed will purchase a different brand than they normally use in order to maximize loyalty benefits; 69 per cent said the programs are worth the effort of participating; 45 per cent get a rush from watching loyalty program balances grow.

they can earn more points.

"Participation in loyalty programs is universal," Daniel says. "What's surprising is that 62 per cent were willing to raise their hand and say it's a marketing scheme that actually pushes them to continue doing business with one brand over another."

That compares to just 10 per cent who will admit traditional marketing, such as advertising in newspapers, flyers or on TV, influences their shopping pattern.

"Consumers told us they are particularly loyal to programs that make them feel special, offer non-monetary privileges for members only, and communicate often in ways that consumers find personally relevant and interesting," Daniel adds.

— *Torstar News Service*

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**Canucks aftermath**

**Luongo says he'll waive no-trade clause**

Roberto Luongo says he will waive his no-trade clause if the Vancouver Canucks ask him to this off-season.

Luongo made the comments as the Canucks



Roberto Luongo

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

cleaned out their lockers Tuesday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Public-opinion polling**

**Jimmie Johnson is Forbes' most influential athlete**

NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson is ranked by Forbes as America's most influential athlete a second straight year. New York Jets QB Tim Tebow is ranked second. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**CFL**

**Riders bring in receiver Moss**

Receiver Sinorice Moss, who won a Super Bowl with the 2007 New York Giants, agreed to terms with the Saskatchewan Roughriders Tuesday along with offensive linemen Johan Asiata and linebacker Daniel Shefford. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Olympic soccer**

**"I watched from the stand, always dreamed of leading a team out there one day."** John Herdman, Canada's women's coach, on being drawn to play at St. James' Park in his native Newcastle, England. Japan, Sweden and South Africa round out Group F.



**SPORTS**

**Quoted**

**"Typically, I'd be there in a second, but this isn't a normal situation and this isn't me trying to hide away from the world championships. I love playing for Team Canada.... Anyone who is questioning that right now obviously doesn't know me or aren't thinking right."**

Sidney Crosby, who strongly defended his decision to not play for Canada in the upcoming world hockey championship, saying he needs to go through the full summer of preparation he missed because of a concussion last year.

**"Really, I don't have a choice."**

Crosby's Pittsburgh Penguins teammate Evgeni Malkin, who will suit up for Russia at the event in Helsinki and Stockholm from May 4-20.

# Zajac's OT winner takes Devils, Panthers to Game 7

**NHL.** Yet another Eastern Conference first-round series going the distance

Travis Zajac scored at 5:39 of overtime and the New Jersey Devils avoided elimination and sent yet another Eastern Conference first-round series to a seventh game with a 3-2 victory over the Florida Panthers on Tuesday night.

Steve Bernier and Ilya Kovalchuk also scored and Martin Brodeur made 14 saves for New Jersey, which squandered a two-goal lead and had fans dreading another first-round playoff exit until Zajac scored from the right-hand circle.

The shot beat Scott Clemmensen to the lower corner and set off a mob scene on the ice.

Clemmensen was outstanding, stopping 39 shots in an emergency start for the injured Jose Theodore. Kris Versteeg and Sean Bergenheim tallied for Florida, which was looking for its first series win since 1996.

Game 7 will be played in Sunrise, Fla., on Thursday.

Two other series in the conference are also headed to



Game 7s. Washington will be at second-seeded Boston on Wednesday and Ottawa will be at the top-seeded Rangers on Thursday.

The Panthers had a chance in a scramble in front of Brodeur just before Zajac's goal.

However, Zajac pulled the puck away from the crease and led a rush up ice. Zach Parise took his cross-ice pass and gave the puck to Kovalchuk, who found Zajac skating down the right wing for a shot along the ice into the net.

The Devils outshot Florida 42-16 in a game played before a sellout crowd.

Despite being outshot 29-10 in the opening 40 minutes, the Panthers rallied from a 2-0 deficit and entered the third period tied at 2-all.

The remarkable aspect was that the Panthers took only four shots in the second period and tallied on the two of the first three. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Travis Zajac celebrates after he scored the game-winning goal in overtime against the Florida Panthers Tuesday in Newark, N.J. **BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES**

## Coyotes get warm reception back home



The Coyotes' Shane Doan shakes hands with fans at the airport Tuesday in Phoenix. **MICHAEL CHOW/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

The Phoenix Coyotes touched down on a hot day in the desert and groggily wandered toward the tarmac.

The cobwebs quickly shook away when they walked down the stairs from the back of the team plane and saw what was waiting for them: Hundreds of fans just outside the gate, holding signs, chanting, even howling after the team's triumphant return from Chicago.

The Coyotes are playoff winners for the first time in 25 years and have made hockey relevant again in the Valley of the Sun.

"It's unbelievable," Coy-

otes goalie Mike Smith said Tuesday as fans chanted "Smitty!" over his shoulder. "It's been a heck of a ride so far and our fans have been right there with us all the way."

The Coyotes have already accomplished more than any other team in franchise history.

Despite playing without an owner for the third straight season and a roster filled with gritty non-star players, Phoenix won its final five games of the regular season to capture the Pacific Division, the first division crown in the team's 33-year

**Coyotes-Hawks recap**

After five straight overtime games to open the series, an NHL first since the 1951 Stanley Cup finals, Phoenix finished with a flourish, rolling over the Blackhawks 4-0 in Game 6 Monday night.

NHL history.

By beating the Blackhawks the Coyotes advanced to the second round of the playoffs for the first time since 1987, when the team was still called the Winnipeg Jets. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**On the web**



**It's been crazy month for golfer Bubba Watson after winning the Masters in a sudden-death playoff on April 8. But, despite the recent fanfare, the lefty with a flair for the dramatic says he's still "just Bubba." Now Watson's back to work preparing to defend his title this week at the Zurich Classic. Scan the code for the story.**

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# New hybrid compact a big draw



**Review.** A hybrid for less than \$23,000 that pulls down 3.5 l/100 km in the city? Sold.

**MALCOLM GUNN**  
Wheelbase Media

The most popular gasoline-electric hybrid brand around is now a lineup unto itself and the all-new Toyota Prius c is the smallest and least expensive of the bunch.

With fuel costs soaring, it's likely that hybrid demand will accelerate in spite of a continued price gap compared to gasoline-only vehicles. That's good news for Toyota's four-model Prius line and especially good news for the new Prius c (c is for compact).

Although small in stature — 48 centimetres shorter and about five centimetres narrower than the current Prius hatchback — the Prius c comes up big in minimizing fuel consumption, registering 3.5 l/100

km in the city and 4.0 highway. By comparison, the regular Prius's numbers are 3.7/4.0. The combined city/highway number for both is nearly identical at 3.7 for the c and 3.8 for the Prius.

So exactly what advantage does the smaller Prius c hold over its equally thrifty namesake? Actually, there are about 5,000 of them, which is the difference in dollars that distinguish the two Toyotas. The c's on-the-road base tariff is \$22,550, placing it well within reach for many buyers and, for example, is only about \$5,500 pricier than a Toyota Corolla and actually \$1,000 cheaper than the Honda Insight hybrid.

With the Prius c's launch — as well as the launch of the plug-in model and the larger v wagon — Toyota is showing its continuing dominance in the hybrid category by stretching the brand to fit a broader audience. The c is the first, however, to truly challenge entry-level gas-only models on their own turf — which is price point — while providing significantly better economy.



If you concede that the regular Prius and the smaller c consume about the same fuel, then why does the c cost so much less? You actually get less — less space and less power.



The Prius c dash layout is pitched to the right of the driver, although not really for functional or aesthetic reasons.

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

## By comparison



**1** Honda CR-Z  
Base price: \$24,100



**2** Honda Insight  
Base price: \$23,500



**3** Kia Rio 5-Door  
Base price: \$15,600

## Top Gear

### Handy winder strikes a 'cord'

Most garages or shops contain extension cords that are left in a tangled state and usually take forever to straighten out. The Wonder Winder, manufactured by U.S. company Green Leaf, is a wall- or post-mounted device that keeps up to 46 metres of extension cord neatly coiled at all times. The Wonder Winder, which sells in the \$20-\$25 US range, also comes with a quick-release mechanism so it can be moved wherever it's needed. For purchasing info, go to [greenleafinc.com/Wonder\\_Winder.asp](http://greenleafinc.com/Wonder_Winder.asp). You can also locate this product at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and [genuinehotrod.com](http://genuinehotrod.com).

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## On the Web



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The SRT Viper's V-10 engine produces 640 horsepower. CONTRIBUTED



2013 NEW MODELS

# SRT Viper is the testosterone in Chrysler's comeback

## Autopilot



### AUTO PILOT

Mike Goetz  
drive@metronews.ca

Chrysler was actually thinking at one point of not making another Viper.

I guess you can't really blame them. After all, when you're trying to revive a full-line car company that's on life support, diverting precious resources into a supercar program would seem a tad irrational to anybody. Like blowing rent money on

tattoos.

But just as people sometimes have to be cruel to be kind, automakers sometimes have to be irrational to be rational.

"It shows we still have a soul at Chrysler," is how Ralph Gilles put it, when he unveiled the new Viper for the first time, earlier this month at the New York International Auto Show.

Gilles, who heads up design at Chrysler, as well as the SRT division, also related how a fellow executive, Dan Knott, reacted when the company's management team finally green-lighted the Viper comeback at a

fateful team meeting.

"(Dan) leaned into the microphone and said, 'Today we're a car company again.'"

The subtext is that car companies need to build some cars just for the hell of it, to show what they're capable of and to prove to the world that they totally understand the irrational element that's lurking somewhere in every vehicle purchase.

The importance of this type of car hit home again for me this week at Toys "R" Us. At the press unveiling in New York, SRT handed out cool press kits to the scribes, but also a Hot Wheels ver-

### Viper highlights

- 640 hp/600 lb-ft of torque.
- Estimated top speed — a lot!
- Carbon fibre hood and roof.
- Launch Control.
- Info Screen can chart lap times.

sion of the new SRT Viper.

It reminded me that a few Hot Wheels would be a great present for my niece's newest offspring (you can never start car culture too early).

As you can imagine, there was a lot of Hot Wheels merchandise, but not many minivans or crossovers.

This got me thinking: as a business plan for ensuring future brand recognition and support, you could do worse than coming up with a vehicle worthy of being rendered in Hot Wheels.

I guess the other justification for making supercars is in developing future technologies.

The Viper's re-worked V-10 engine, now good for 640 horsepower and 600 lb-ft of torque, is no poster boy for miserly fuel consumption. But Viper's newer and slimmer body is definitely a friend to fuel efficiency. The hood, roof and rear deck are all constructed of carbon fiber, and help make this Viper about 100 pounds lighter than the previous body — and stiffer too. The available "Track Pack" loses another 57 pounds.

With more power and less weight, the 2013 Viper registers in at only 4.91 pounds per horsepower — a figure lower than Porsche 911 Turbo (6.22), Corvette ZR1 (5.01), and Lamborghini Aventador (4.96) and only bettered by the Bugatti Veyron (4.10) and Ferrari F12 (4.70). But who's counting?

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# Fuel-efficient and flexible for families

## Second Gear.

2006 to 2010  
Mazda 5

JUSTIN  
PRITCHARD  
Drive@metronews.ca

The Mazda 5 puts the word "mini" into the word "minivan." A compact six-seater with sliding doors, the 5 launched in its first generation for the 2006 model year, and has now been replaced by a new model.

The first-generation Mazda 5 was popular with small families for its combination of versatility, practicality and good fuel mileage.

### Common Issues

Check the air conditioning system for proper performance, and inspect the body, especially around the wheel wells and tailgate lip, for signs of rust. Note that the 5 had some issues with faulty power-steering pumps, which have become familiar to the online owner community.

A service bulletin and recall have been executed to fix the issue, which could see the power steering system fail intermittently.

Numerous owners complain about "cheap" parts installed at the factory, leaving them to replace tires and brake components earlier than expected. Shoppers should also look for signs of a bad alignment. A mechanic can help if you're unsure how. Ensure the CD player or changer receives and ejects CDs as expected, and check for proper operation of the steering-wheel-mounted audio controls and remote keyfob, too.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

#### Engine



All models got a 2.3-litre four-cylinder with 153 horsepower. Transmission choices included a five-speed manual or five-speed automatic, depending on the model selected. All units were front-wheel drive.

#### What Owners Like



The availability of a manual transmission, good handling, relatively generous room, good mileage, interior layout and easy-to-maneuver sizing are all highly rated by Mazda 5 owners. High levels of comfort and flexibility are also noted.

#### What Owners Dislike



Common owner complaints include a rougher ride on models with larger wheels, the lack of a front passenger-seat arm rest and some difficult-to-clean interior trim materials. Owners also note that cargo space all but disappears when all rows of seating are used.

#### Verdict

The 5 looks largely free of expensive or worrisome problems. Those with a young family after a flexible and fuel-efficient means of transportation can buy a well-maintained model with confidence.

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## Crossword

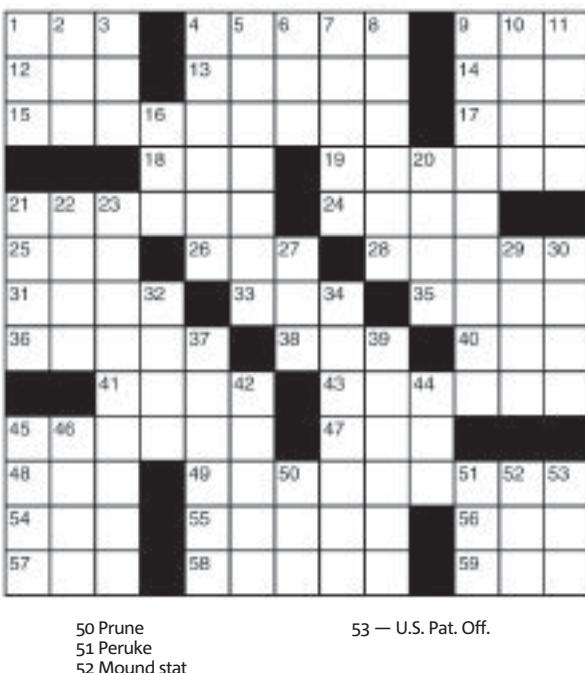
**Across**

1 Triangle part  
4 Walked the floor  
9 Scatter seed  
12 Bullring bravo  
13 Earlier on the page  
14 Swiss canton  
15 Energetic determination  
17 Snooze  
18 Canal zone?  
19 Drawing for a prize  
21 Choose  
24 Cash drawer  
25 Carte lead-in  
26 Desire  
28 Detroit football team  
31 Deviates off course  
33 Society newcomer  
35 Foolish bloke  
36 Cancel  
38 Lubricant  
40 Old French coin  
41 Anthropologist Margaret  
43 Swerved  
45 Inclement  
47 With 16-Down, "Brokeback Mountain" director  
48 Legislation  
49 Quasimodo's place  
54 Gorilla  
55 Herded  
56 Rage

57 Apiece  
58 Skiers' mecca  
59 Joke

**Down**

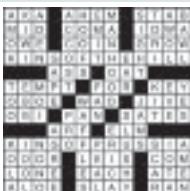
1 Depressed  
2 Inventor Whitney  
3 Solidify  
4 Pontiff's term of office  
5 Scrubbed a launch  
6 Intimidate  
7 Chris of tennis fame  
8 Throw off track  
9 Kansas emblem  
10 Exam format  
11 Clean the slate  
16 See 47-Across  
20 Go like a butterfly  
21 "I — Little Prayer"  
22 Verve  
23 Groundskeeper's machine  
27 Ultra-modernist  
29 Pleasant  
30 Poker variety  
32 Litigant  
34 Clam or oyster  
37 Greek consonant  
39 Meager  
42 Color workers  
44 Freudian topic  
45 Rebuff a masher  
46 Recording



50 Prune  
51 Peruke  
52 Mound stat

53 — U.S. Pat. Off.

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Cryptoquip

**How to play**  
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

APNMBR U ZNSOZ CNNI  
UCNMD ANST AMJTG-JNDTHD  
CUIOHQ ADMYY QTD DODBTR

"D P T Y U H D U A D O Z Y B N M G ?"  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A RESTAURANT, FEELING LIKE IT DIDN'T CHARGE ENOUGH FOR FILETS, DECIDED TO RAISE THE STEAKS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals T

## Horoscope

**Aries** | March 21 - April 20.  
You can make things happen today through sheer force of personality. There is no such word as "can't" in your vocabulary.

**Taurus** | April 21 - May 21.  
Sometimes in life, you have no choice but to sit back and wait it out. This is one of those occasions.

**Gemini** | May 22 - June 20.  
Whatever you do on the spur of the moment today will work out well—or at least do no lasting damage.

**Cancer** | June 21 - July 22.  
Sometimes you can be a bit too cautious for your own good, which means you don't always achieve what you should.

**Leo** | July 23 - Aug. 22.  
With mind planet Mercury at odds with Pluto today confidence alone won't take you far. Plan ahead.

**Virgo** | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.  
A rival may have more talent than you but you possess something infinitely more important: staying power. Keep that in mind.

**Libra** | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22.  
You need to free yourself of something that is holding you back. Be ruthless and don't let friends and family members talk you out of it.

**Scorpio** | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.  
You don't need permission to think, speak or act. Stand up for yourself and your beliefs!

**Sagittarius** | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21.  
It'd be a mistake to do anything strenuous over the next 24 hours.

**Capricorn** | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20.  
Don't be afraid to explore new experiences. The Sun in Taurus at this time of year makes you incredibly adventurous.

**Aquarius** | Jan. 21 - Feb. 18.  
The more you try to move in a certain direction, the more events conspire to block your progress. Take the hint and hold back for a while.

**Pisces** | Feb. 19 - March 20.  
Something will happen today that throws your plans into disarray. It's all good. **SALLY BROMPTON**



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

## Sudoku



## How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



## Weather

TODAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



MAX: 12°  
MIN: 5°



MAX: 18°  
MIN: 9°

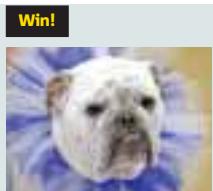


MAX: 9°  
MIN: 2°



**JENNA KHAN**  
WEATHER SPECIALIST

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6 AM**



## You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to [play@metronews.ca](mailto:play@metronews.ca) — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

## Caption Contest

"What did you say about my mama?!"  
Danielle

FRANK AUGSTEIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# IBEW

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